

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a first ~~means for receiving~~ device configured to receive a file containing information about a characteristic word representing a characteristic of a television program;

an input ~~means for allowing~~ device configured to allow a user to select an intended characteristic word from characteristic words contained in said file;

a device configured to transmit ~~means for transmitting~~ information about a characteristic word selected by said user to ~~other apparatuses~~ a recording and playback apparatus; and

a second ~~means for receiving~~ device configured to receive television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word transmitted from said ~~other apparatuses~~ recording and playback apparatus as a result of transmitting information about said selected characteristic word.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The information processing apparatus according to claim 13,

wherein said first reception means receives a file containing information about said characteristic word from said ~~other apparatuses~~ recording and playback apparatus.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising:

a ~~first step of~~ controlling reception of a file containing information about a characteristic word representing a characteristic of a television program;

~~an input step of~~ allowing a user to select an intended characteristic word from characteristic words contained in said file;

~~a step of~~ controlling transmission of information about a characteristic word selected by said user to ~~other apparatuses~~ a recording and playback apparatus; and

~~a second step of~~ controlling reception of television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word transmitted from said ~~other apparatuses~~ recording and playback apparatus as a result of transmitting information about said selected characteristic word.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium encoded with a computer program to allow a computer to perform:

~~a first step of~~ controlling reception of a file containing information about a characteristic word representing a characteristic of a television program;

~~an input step of~~ allowing a user to select an intended characteristic word from characteristic words contained in said file;

~~a step of~~ controlling transmission of information about a characteristic word selected by said user to ~~other apparatuses~~ a recording and playback apparatus; and

~~a second step of~~ controlling reception of television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word transmitted from said ~~other apparatuses~~ recording and playback apparatus as a result of transmitting information about said selected characteristic word.